

May 18, 2011



The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: WT Docket 11-65

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

As the St. Louis region's leading economic development organization, the Regional Chamber and Growth Association (RCGA) works to improve the business environment and quality-of-life foundations that fuel economic growth. Our organization also frequently serves as a liaison between companies seeking to grow in our region and the various organizations and government entities that can help facilitate that success.

You may recall visiting our offices here in St. Louis with Senator McCaskill a few months ago, when you introduced yourself to several of our local business leaders. We appreciated your comments and the effort you made to make yourself available for a good discussion of current telecommunications issues.

The RCGA has three primary roles in our region. We serve as the regional chamber of commerce, representing nearly 4,000 businesses and institutions, and we serve as the leading economic development organization for our 16-county, bi-state metropolitan region. We also analyze and support public policy initiatives that help our region thrive and grow.

One such initiative is the proposed merger between AT&T and T-Mobile USA. In the past few years, the RCGA has worked directly with several economic development prospects that were considering relocating or expanding in our region. As part of their consideration, they indicated that telecommunications infrastructure was a prime decision factor for them.

It is our understanding that the proposed merger would lead to more robust and widespread wireless service, which is becoming increasingly vital to our regional businesses as they work to strengthen their global competitiveness. As business

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becomes increasingly reliant on information and the ability to share it, the need to expand access to wireless broadband technology is crucial to the growth of our

region, which includes urban, suburban, and rural communities, all of which will see increased access to high speed wireless broadband service should this merger be approved.

We urge you to view this merger favorably based on the significant economic development benefits it will bring to our region. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Richard C.D. Fleming
President and CEO

RCDF/CC:

cc: Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker